IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 43 in which said alkalizing agent includes an alkaline earth metal ~~salt additive~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim ~~43~~ 1 wherein the dry-granulated composition, after storage at 40°C and 75% relative humidity for 4 weeks, contains not more than about 2% total impurities and/or degradants based on area percent of drug related HPLC peaks.

4. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim ~~43~~ 1 wherein the composition contains not more than about 2% atorvastatin lactone based on area percent of HPLC peaks.

5. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim ~~43~~ 1 wherein the composition is used in the formation of a solid unit dosage form.

6. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 5 wherein the unit dosage form is selected from the group consisting of a tablet and a capsule.

7. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim ~~43~~ 1 wherein the atorvastatin contains at least some partially or completely disordered form of atorvastatin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. Cancelled

9. Cancelled

10. Cancelled

11. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim ~~1~~ 17 wherein said diluent has a mean particle size between about 20 and 200 μm.

12. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim ~~1~~ 17 wherein said diluent has a mean particle size between 40 and 150 μm.

13. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 43 ~~1~~ wherein said composition shows a granulation factor of between about 0.4 and 1.0.

14. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 43~~1~~ wherein said composition shows a granulation factor of between about 0.5 and 1.0.

15. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 43~~1~~ wherein said composition shows a granulation factor of between about 0.6 and 1.0.

16. Cancelled.

17. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 43 in which at least~~12 wherein said diluent comprises greater than~~ about 50% (w:w) of said diluent is composed an ingredient selected from the group consisting of microcrystalline cellulose, lactose, sucrose, xylitol and~~or~~ calcium phosphate dibasic.

Claims 18-42 Cancelled

43. (New) A dry granulated pharmaceutical composition comprising:
    a) from 1-40 w/w % of atrovastatin,

b) at least 40 wt% of a diluent in which said diluent contains at least one component selected from the group consisting of calcium phosphate, calcium sulfate, carboxymethylcellulose calcium, cellulose, cellulose acetate, dextrates, dextrin, dextrose, fructose, glyceryl palmitostearate, hydrogenated vegetable oil, kaolin, lactitol, lactose, magnesium carbonate, magnesium oxide, maltitol, maltodextrin, maltose, polymethacrylates, pregelatinized starch, silicified microcrystalline cellulose, sodium chloride, sorbitol, starch, sucrose and talc, and,

c) less than 5 w/w% of an alkalizing agent.

44. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 43 in which said atorvastatin is amorphous.

45. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 43 in which said alkalizing agent is present in the quantity of less than 3 w/w%.

46. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 43 in which said alkalizing agent is present in the quantity of less than 2 w/w%.